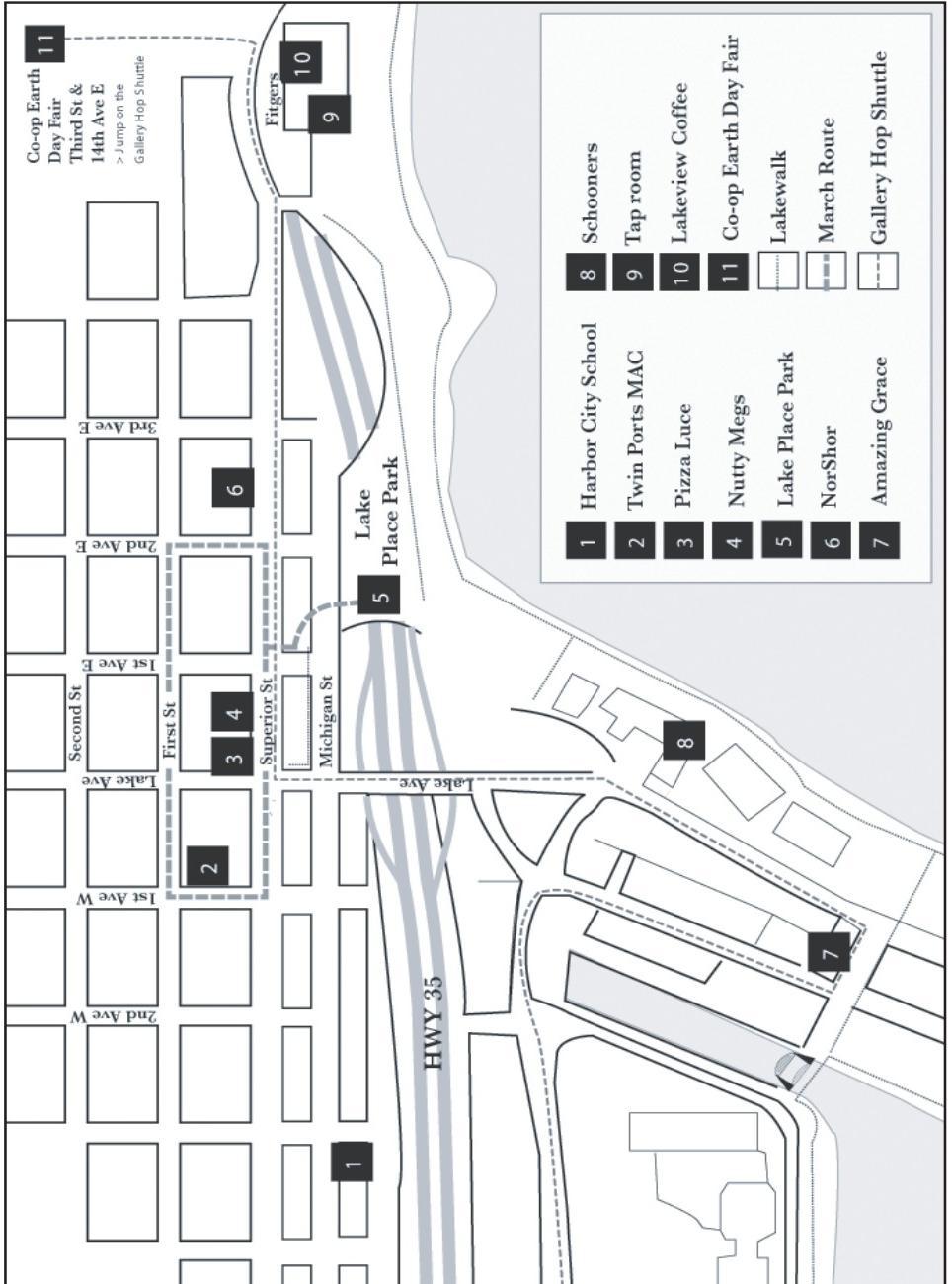


Summit April 27 - 29

Free Democracy

www.freedomocracysummit.org
free registration & more





Duluth, Minnesota, April 23rd - April 25th 2004

free democracy summit

celebration of art and music in activism conference on contemporary issues social and environmental justice from the grassroots

www.freedomocracysummit.org

education

The Free Democracy Summit will feature presentations by a diverse group of organizations working on social and environmental justice issues. These presentations will often be over-lapping and take place at multiple venues in downtown Duluth. The organizations include the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, Witness For Peace, the Minnesota Public Interest Research Group, Democracy Matters, the Resource Center for the America's, Institute for a Sustainable Future, and many more. They will be presenting through forums, workshops, panel discussions, and keynote addresses. These educational and interactive presentations will speak about the work that each organization does and the issues they tackle.



art

It will be art that kicks off the Free Democracy Summit, on Friday night as bands and poets will be performing at musical venues all across Duluth. All weekend long, art will be one of the activities that binds everyone together. With politically charged art at galleries all across city, music and poets on street corners all day, and at bars and coffee shops at night. Creative and free expression of ideas through theater, spoken word, or any other method will be encouraged, as we come together to find new ways of working collectively to create a better world for everyone.

From music to street theater, from puppets to poems, the arts have played a vital role in activism. The arts energize, inspire, and unify - and the Free Democracy Summit will celebrate that role.



inspiration

Keynote speakers, Rallies, and a march lead by Granny "D", will serve as inspiration and energy, that along with the art and education, will fuel the people's desire to become involved and stay involved in a movement for a better world. The "Call to Consciousness Rally" will focus on the idea that better world is possible, and that we need to realize that there are issues that tie all of our individual battles together. Granny "D" walked across the entire United States to fight for campaign finance reform, and she will lead us in a march for ten blocks symbolizing the ten miles a day she walked for 14 months, at the age of 89, to make our country a better place. Now at 93 she will march again with our support, and together we will help create a movement that is inclusive, fair, and dedicated to bettering everyone's lives.

The keynote speakers will help us come to the realization that there are threads that tie each of our issues together. By creating new allies and new bonds our effectiveness and efficiency will be forever improved.



Friday Evening

5:30pm-
8pm

harbor city
school
free

Free Democracy Summit Art Opening

This is the first official free democracy summit event. Over 25 artists have submitted their work to celebrate the role of creative expression in activism. This is the grand opening for all the pieces displayed at Harbor City School.

6:30 p m -
8pm

twin ports
music and arts
collective
free

Twin Ports M.A.C. Art Opening & Ad Bust Chemicals: A Design Contest To Protest Chemical Trespass

Artists have submitted their artwork calling attention to the issue of chemical trespass. This is opening night for an evocative show that will help tell the story of how current laws do not protect us from chemical contamination. Come check out this and other charged art at Twin Ports Music and Arts Collective on they're first day open.

7pm-9pm

nutty megs
free

Political Verse: Evening Poetry Reading

Local talent have put together some of their best to kick the night off, then the mic will be open for you to share your work.

8pm-9pm

the amazing
grace cafe
free

Police State: A documentary

A Film by Kirk Jansen documenting UMD students experiences at the Free Trade Area of the Americas protest last November in Miami, and there stop at the School of America's in Ft. Benning.

9pm -

the amazing
grace cafe
free

Music into the Night

Heather Murphy, a twin cities based folk artist bringing songs about community.

still... Friday Evening

9pm -

the norshore
theater
Nominal

Music into the Night (*cont.*)

The Norshore Theater is re-opening it's doors with Class of 86, A-Bomb Nation, and the Keep Aways. With a long fine history of dissent and working for social change, Punk is a perfect match for the summit.

schooners
saloon
free

Twin Cities rockers Cowboy Curtis and Sunny Wicked will join local rockers / free democracy summit organizers, IPA, for an evening with a slight indy lean.

nutty megs
free

Sammo Miltich and Joe Walsch, acoustic flamenco, gypsy jazz for social change.

pizza luce
5 dollars

Twin Cities bluegrass band Free Range Pickin' will bring a four piece original acoustic sound that will at least inspire dancing, and who knows what come's after that.

Saturday Daytime

9am-4pm

Whole Foods Co-op Earth Day Fair

3rd Street
Farmers
Market
free

The 6th Annual WFC Earth Day Fair will be alive and kick'n on the hill. Celebrate the Earth with music, food, environmental exhibits, a petting zoo for the kids, electric cars, local organizations and a whole ton of fun.

**catch the free earth day gallery hop trolleys running regular loops between local art galleries and the earth day fair. (Galleries close to Free Democracy Summit events include Lizards at 38 E. Superior St. and the Depot at 506 West Michigan St. The Trolley runs every 20 minutes starting at 11am from the Depot.)

Saturday Daytime

Keynote Presentations & Panel Discussions connecting issues of environmental and social

*Registration is not required, though it is suggested to guarantee your spot. Register online or at Harbor City School beginning at 8am Saturday.

9am-10am Community Based Agriculture and Our Food Supply

- **David Abazs**, Activist and CSA Farmer from Finland, MN

Who controls our food supply? This workshop will demonstrate who's really running the show and discuss how to put community control back in the drivers seat for agricultural markets.

Root Cellering: Extend Your Market Season

- **John Fischer Merrit**, The Food Farm

This is another farming workshop. Season extension through root cellering provides opportunities for both consumers and producers to warm up local markets in a cold climate.

Violence against Women as a Tool for Globalization

- **Beth Olson**, Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault

This workshop will make connections between violence against women and globalization.

Energy Opportunities for Duluth: Clean, Off the Grid Energy Development in Duluth

- **Mike Mageau**, Center for Sustainable Community Development

This workshop will outline a possible plan for the city of Duluth to get off the grid, what it would mean for job creation, what it would mean for our energy bills, and what it would mean for the environment.

9am-
10:30am

Harbor City
School
free

Poverty - Working For Survival in the 21st Century

- **Stan Kaifors**, Community Action Duluth
- **Bill Hardesty**, Witness For Peace
- **Myra Gomez**, Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions
- **Buddy Robinson**, Minnesota Northeast Senior Federation
- **Grahame Russell**, Rights Action

This is a look at systems that generate or foster poverty on a domestic and global scale. Panelists will discuss work they do organizing to fight poverty in the 21st century.

still... Saturday Daytime

Keynote Presentations & Panel Discussions connecting issues of environmental and social

9am-
10:30am
Harbor City
School
free

Organizing For Fair Trade in a Global Economy

- **Jerry Fallos**, 11th District United Steel Workers of America
- **Dennis Olson**, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
- **John Flory**, North Country Fair Trade
- **Alan Netland**, AFL-CIO
- **Katie Harrod**, Peace Coffee

This panel will focus on different approaches to organizing for sustainable development through fair trade networks, national advocacy, international advocacy, and working with nongovernmental organizations like the UN and WTO.

Faith Groups working for Social and Environmental Justice

- **Gary G. Kohls**, Every Church is a Peace Church
- **Lyn Clark Pegg**, Understanding and Dismanteling Racism
- **Jim Soderburg**, Churches United in Ministry
- **tba**, United Methodist Sustainable Living Group

Is working for Social and Environmental Justice an integral part of your faith? What role are religious institutions supposed to take, and what roles are they taking already? We will discuss how faith organizations are working towards social and environmental justice

Toxins, Human Health, & the Environment

- **Jamie Harvie**, Institute for a Sustainable Future
- **Connie Minowa**, Environmental Association for Great Lakes Education
- **Patience Caso**, Clean Water Action Alliance
- **Louise Curnow**, Green Mercantile

In our workplaces, households, food, and in everyday consumer goods, more and more chemicals are being used. This panel will examine what's out there, how it affects our families health and the environment.

Saturday Daytime

Keynote Presentations & Panel Discussions connecting issues of environmental and social importance (cont.)

9am-
10:30am
Harbor City
School
free

Media, Youth Culture, and Building Community

- Brad Nelson, Ripsaw News
- Kristian Knutsen, The Wisconsinite
- tba, New Moon Magazine
- Taya Mueller, Music For America

Media, youth culture and community are connected in many ways. This panel will address those connections with each presenter speaking about the goals and affects of their own publications.

Environmental Racism - How Racism plays out in Industry and Development

- Anthony F. LaDeaux, Indian Commission
- Ken Bradley, Minnesotans for an Energy Efficient Economy
- Henry Banks, Clayton Jackson McGhie Memorial Committee
- Bret Thiele, Centre On Housing Rights and Evictions
- Melissa Taylor, Women's Transitional Housing

Too often, racism manifests itself in hard to see ways. Making connections between race and landscape can seem abstract, but the implications are very real. Minority communities are disproportionately affected by the negatives of industry and development, and that's what this panel will address.

10:15am-
11:15am
Harbor City
School
free

Understanding the World Bank, WTO, and IMF (*keynote)

- Grahame Russel, Rights Action

Understanding the role that international institutions play in human rights, trade, and the environment is difficult business. Get it straight from the trenches with this hour long workshop from a human rights activist eh.

10:45am-
11:45am
Harbor City
School
free

Just Energy: Manitoba Hydro and the Story of Manitoba's First Nation People

- Ken Bradley, Minnesotans for an Energy Efficient Economy

Large portions of the power purchased in Minnesota comes from large dams in Manitoba. This session will tell the story of the Manitoba Cree and how they have been affected by hydro power development.

Sustainable Local Business and Community

- Cathy Podezwa, Northern Sustainable Business Alliance
- Laurie Johnson, Duluth City Council and Labor Organizer
- Cree Holtz, Superior Grown

A look at how your community is affected by locally owned versus absentee owned, large scale business. Do they both compete on a level playing field and what are the effects on your local economy?

still... Saturday Daytime

Keynote Presentations & Panel Discussions connecting issues of environmental and social importance (cont.)

10:45am-
12:15am
Harbor City
School
free

Think Globally, Act Locally: work to stop the violence against women on a global scale

- Beth Olson, Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault
- Ellen Pence, PRAXIS internationaal
- Mayra Gomez, Amnesty International
- Frank Jewel, Men as Peacemakers
- Rebecca St. George, Mending the Sacred Hoop

A follow-up to the 9am workshop connecting violence against women to globalization. This workshop/panel will bring the discussion to another level, developing a plan for action.

Civil Rights to Gay Rights, and the Institution of Marriage

- Angie Nichols, University of Minnesota of Duluth, GLBT office
- Porsche Johnson, NAACP
- Bob Jansen, owner of *The Main* bar

Panelists will examine parallels between the civil rights and gay rights movement, and also explore the issue of gay marriage

The History and Potential of Young People Working for Change

- Mattie Weiss, League of Pissed Off Voters
- Alyssa Erikson, YO
- Taya Mueller, Music For America
- Patience Caso, Clean Water Action Alliance

Young people have the passion, energy, and idealism it takes to create real change in the world. Learn how today's young are people getting plugged in to activism and what some of their past successes have been.

US Agricultural Policy

- Dennis Olson, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
- David Abazs, Finland Minnesota CSA Farmer

With the growing transition towards an integrated global market, trying to understand US agricultural policy becomes a tall order. These panelists are going to give their best efforts to help sort out who makes the rules and to what ends

Saturday Daytime

Keynote Presentations and Panel Discussions connecting issues of environmental and social importance (cont.)

10:45am-
12:15am
Harbor City
School
free

Big Money in Politics and the Power Elite - The National Picture (*keynote)

- **Dorris Haddock**, AKA "Granny D"
- **Dennis Burke**, Campaign Manager for Granny D
- **Nick Palumbo**, Minnesota Alliance For Progressive Action
- **Buddy Robinson**, Minnesota Senior Federation

Panelists will address both examples of how money has affected the political landscape as well as examples of work for change and real democracy.

Systems in Place that Generate Poverty

- **Lisa Albrecht**, United for a Fair Economy, U of MN Professor, Activist, Educator, Writer
- **Stan Kaitfors**, Community Action Duluth
- **Steve O'Niel**, Churches United in Ministry

Despite years of a government war on poverty, and despite countless non-profit, state-run, and religious organizations all working to end poverty, the problem of poor and homeless families is as bad or worse than ever. What is really causing poverty in our nation, the richest on earth? Are there possible changes to the system we all live and work in that could help truly eliminate systematic poverty? A look at some of the causes and hopeful solutions.

Media's Role in Today's Democracy

- **Bob Boone**, Reader Weekly
- **Kristian Knutsen**, Center for Media and Democracy
- **Pat Kelly**, KDLH News
- **Abhinav Aima**, UMD Journalism Professor

The news media plays a gigantic role in shaping today's democracy. This panel will bring together some of today's print and broadcast media to discuss how they see the connections between the media and democracy.

10:45am-
12:15am
Harbor City
School
free

Trade and How it Affects Community - The Labor Perspective

- **Eric Lehto**, AFSCME
- **Mary Theuer**, AFL-CIO
- **Jerry Fallos**, 11th District Steelworkers of America
- **Erik Peterson**, Labor Education Services

In today's global marketplace, trade connects and shapes communities both home and abroad. Join our panel of local labor leaders and experts as we discuss, through the lens of labor, how trade influences community.

still...Saturday Daytime

Keynote Presentations and Panel Discussions connecting issues of environmental and social importance (cont.)

11:30am-
12:30am
Harbor City
School
free

Colombia and U.S. Foreign Policy (*keynote)

- **Phillip Cryan**, Witness for Peace

From the war on drugs to oil to the peace initiative, US intervention in Colombia has a long and expensive history. Phillip Cryan comes to us fresh from a two year stay in the country, working with Witness for Peace. He'll spend the hour discussing what is going on in Columbia and what it has to do with us.

1pm-
2:30pm
Harbor City
School
free

Youth Organizing Against Sweatshops

- **Alyssa Erickson**, YO
- **Eric Lehto**, AFSCME

Panelists will begin by discussing their personal experiences organizing against sweatshops. Followed by Alyssa ... presenting a workshop on How to Organize Schools Around Sweatshop Issues

Institutionalized Racism

- **Robert E. Powless**, Ph. D, Retired Professor Emeritus, UMD. Indian Commission
- **Myra Gomez**, Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions
- **Claudie Washington**, NAACP
- **Tonya Sconiers**, Assistant Principal at Denfeld

This panel will discuss the impact Brown Vs. Board of Education and desegregation have had on our school systems as it relates to people of color. Panelists will also talk about how housing and employment play into the existing educational gap of minority families, as well as global institutions and problems of racism along with ideas for solutions and improvements.

Institutionalized Racism

- **George Crocker**, Director, North American Water Office

George Crocker has a long history of activism in the struggle for social and environmental justice. He also has a long history of activism in energy issues. This talk will focus on how energy development impacts environmental protection, economic development and social justice. It will focus on what happens when energy is done wrong, and what can happen when energy is done right.

...still Saturday

Keynote Presentations and Panel Discussions connecting issues of environmental and social importance (cont.)

1pm-
2:30pm
Harbor City
School
free

Media Bias

- Kristian Knutsen, Center for Media and Democracy
- Abhinav Aima, UMD Journalism Profesor
- Mark Emmert, Duluth News Tribune & President of the Society of Professional Journalists
- tba, New Moon Magazine

The creditability of the news media has been declining over the years because many see them as being bias. This panel will discuss the public's perception of the media and discuss why some believe the news media is too liberal, while others believe why it is too conservative

U.S. Foreign Policy and the Americas (*Keynote)

- Mary Turck, Resource Center of the Americas
- Dennis Olson, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
- Phillip Cryan, Witness for Peace
- Grahame Russel, Rights Action

This panel will explore past and present adventures in US foreign policy taking a critical look at agriculture, trade, human rights, democracy, war and development.

Cesar Chavez: The Struggle Continues

- Ernesto Rivas, United Farm Workers Union

This workshop is aimed to raise the consciousness of American Consumers about the ongoing struggle of farmworkers who grow the food we eat. Attendees will learn how these people are exploited by giant corporate farms which provide poor working conditions, limited or no health benefits, all the while risking their health by exposure to dangerous pesticides.

The Free Trade Agenda: Attacking Jobs, Public Services and our Democracy

- tba

The corporate free trade agenda has already meant the loss of millions of manufacturing jobs in this country and the proliferation of sweatshops in the Global South. Now a new generation of trade deals threatens to attack construction, government, and postal workers and to undermine our democratic process. Learn about these new trade deals and how we can stop them and turn this country's trade policy around.

"CALL TO CONSCIOUSNESS"

RALLY & MARCH

Saturday
3 p m s t a r t
@ Lake Place Park



it's time for a change

Because A better world is possible. This March is a call to inspiration, a call to all the people that struggle to make our world one with true justice, democracy, and peace. This march is a call to unity, building the bonds of those who know that the world needs a "Call to Consciousness" and that a better world is possible.

Join Speakers

Erik Peterson
Mayor Herb Bergson
Dorris "Granny D" Haddock

Music by
Dave Simonette
Paula Peterson



featuring:
Dorris "Granny D" Haddock

At 94, Granny D may well be the oldest and therefore wisest activist around. A better world is possible, come take the first steps with the people making it happen.

Saturday Daytime

9am-3pm

Free Democracy Gallery Showings at various venues

harbor city school and twin ports music and arts collective
free

Erin O'Daniel
Connie Minowa
Cassandra Carlson-Vergona
Cassidy Vansickoe
Rachel Mock
Lukas Anderson
Northland Poster Collective
Sandra Peterson
Susan Loonsk
Bridget Riversmith

Mindy Carleson
Lindy Carleson
Sharon Moen
Joe Treder
Ben Boylan
Tare Scribbins
Sue Sojourner
Joel Skinner
Forest Legace
Tess Schmidt
Earl Austin
Tahira Richardson

Saturday Evening

Free Democracy Film Fest: When Grass Grows Through the Red Carpet

5pm-
6:20pm
norshore theatre
free

The Revolution Will Not Be Televised

Two Irish film-makers were in Venezuela filming Hugo Chavez during the US-supported coup in 2002. This is a moving personal account of an elected government overthrown. It's amazing footage of the struggle for justice in the Caracas Streets, and taking the power back.

**With introductions by Grahame Russel, Co-Director of Rights Action and Phillip Cryan, Witness For Peace Latin American Policy Analyst.

Saturday Evening

Free Democracy Film Fest: When Grass Grows Through the Red Carpet (cont)

6:25pm-
7:45pm
norshore theatre
free

Foul Repression: The FTAA Model

Minnesota film-makers bring the struggle against corporate globalization home. Last November, thousands of Americans met in Miami to protest the Free Trade Area of the Americas. Standing up for democracy, the film tracks activist's experiences during the protest, and amazing footage unveils the brutal truth behind American life under the guns of foul repression.

**This is the debut showing with introductions by the film-makers Erik Peterson and Howard Kling.

7:50pm-
9:30pm
norshore theatre
free

What America Needs: From Sea to Shining Sea

Collecting five hundred interviews, from New York City to Los Angelos, film-maker Mark Wojahn traveled across the country by train asking Americans from every perspective, what does America need? "In essence, the movie is a declaration for the democratic ideal and the democratic necessity of talking and really listening to what people have to say. It is a State-of-the-Union address by everyday people whose viewpoints are rarely sought or heard in conventional media."

**Introduction by award winning Minneapolis based film-maker Mark Wojahn.

Keep on Rockin in the Free World

9:30pm -
norshore theatre
2 dollars

Music into the Night

Past members of Super D and the Double Chucks have reorganized to form The Hoot Owls. The Duluth based rock band will follow the film fest.

Saturday Evening

9pm -

pizza luce'
nominal cover

the red lion
2 dollars

the tap room
nominal cover

Twin Ports
Music and Arts
Collective
free

Music into the Night (cont.)

It's a big night for punk in the Twin Ports region, and Luce' is making it's contribution. Class of 86 is playing with Sofa Kingdom and Adapt Abilities.

More great punk. Just like the M.A.C., this is an international experience with Canadian band The Wayback, local bands The Undesirables, DT's and Twin Cities based Eufio.

Cloud Cult fresh off a national tour is joined by Sight Like December and Death To Our Enemies.

This is the M.A.C.'s first big show. Twin Cities based Copy will play with Thunder Bay punk rockers The Rots and local hip-hop complements of Crew Jones.

Sunday Daytime

The People's Breakfast

8:30am-
11:30am
harbor
city school
free

One of the purposes in putting this weekend together was to build connections that will strengthen the movement for social change. We say, why not do this over pancakes and bluegrass.

If it's a project working for social and environmental justice, Dave Simonett will write the sound track. His band Trampled by Turtles will do just that on Sunday morning at "The People's Breakfast".

We'll provide the basics (pancake batter, syrup). You're responsible for spicing it up from there. Bring your favorite food to contribute to the feast if you can. Come on out and cook with us, enjoy a great sunday morning feast and some of the best acoustic music around.

Sunday Daytime

Gettin' Spiritual (Local Services)

9am &

11am

first united
methodist
free

10:30am

first unitarian
church
free

10:30am

peace church
free

Seven Generations

w/David Abazs, CSA Farmer

Earth Stewardship from a sustainability farmer from Minnesota

Making Change Real in the World

w/Jamie Harvey, E.D. Institute for a Sustainable Future

Join this service sponsored by the Green Sanctuary group and be inspired to carry your movement on to others.

Interfaith Dialogue

w/Kathy Nelson, peace church pastor & Amy Bernstein, temple isreal rabbi

An interesting discussion comparing multiple faiths.

do it... Action & Activist Trainings

12pm-
3pm

Fair & Clean Elections Canvass Training

w/Rosie Leoffler-Kemp, MAPA & Clean Water Action

Learn the benefits and skills of the door to door canvas with this training and exercise. You'll also have the option of taking to the streets on behalf of FACE (fair and clean elections), and getting professional feedback.

12pm-
3pm

Voter Registration

w/Staff from the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now and Stan Kaitfors, Community Action Duluth

Voter Registration can be incredibly involved. Beyond just knowing the rules, tying votes to issues, finding target areas, and being efficient takes prep work and practice. This will include a workshop and exercise followed by practice in the streets, taking your skills to under represented neighborhoods in Duluth.



Sunday Daytime

do it... Action & Activist Trainings (cont)

12pm-
1pm
harbor
city school
free

Revolutionary Art and the Art of Revolution.

w/Activists and Artists, Northern Youth Arts and Activism Collective

Art Can be and has been a wonderful way to reach and inspire people, but art is not just an educational and inspirational tool. Art can and ought to be on the front lines of the fight for justice. By undermining consumer culture, radical art undermines the entire system based on that culture. This workshop will explore the possibilities of politically conscious art.

12pm-
1pm
harbor
city school
free

Giving Public Testimony

w/Rachel Bartelson, Minnesota Public Interest and Research Group

Voter Registration can be incredibly involved. Beyond just knowing the rules, tying votes to issues, finding target areas, and being efficient takes prep work and practice. This will include a workshop and exercise followed by practice in the streets, taking your skills to underrepresented neighborhoods in Duluth.

12pm-
2:00pm
harbor
city school
free

Non-Violent Direct Action

w/Penny Craigen, KNOCK

In the struggle for social justice, messaging and public opinion are often some of the most important factors in success. In these situations non-violent direct action can be the most appropriate course of action. Penny Craigen and other experienced activists will discuss the importance of non-violent action in working for social change, as well as present a workshop on using it effectively.

...still Sunday Daytime

do it... Action & Activist Trainings (cont)

1:15pm-
2:15pm
harbor
city school
free

Working with the Media and Messaging

w/Erik Peterson, Wellstone Action and Labor Education Services

Learn the benefits and skills of the door to door canvas with this training and exercise. You'll also have the option of taking to the streets on behalf of FACE (fair and clean elections), and getting professional feedback.

12pm-
2pm
harbor
city school
free

How to Get Stupid White Men Out of Office

w/Mattie Weiss, League of Pissed Off Voters

Mattie is one of 12 authors that wrote and published the book "How to Get Stupid White Men Out of Office: the unboring, anti-politics guide to power". Because Minnesota is a swing state, these books are free. Mattie will take her two hours to walk you through the skill useful in doing exactly as her book's title says.

3pm-
5pm
first united
methodist
church

Keeping the Faith: The Role of Religion in the Public Square

hosted by Arrowhead Interfaith Council

event preregistration available at:

www.freedomdemocracysummit.org

**child care will be provided on a 1st come 1st serve basis. please pre-register and list your need for child care to ensure your child's spot.